

## The Queen's Birthday Holiday.

Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of October was a public holiday in Queensland. It was the Queen's Birthday holiday. Although the 4<sup>th</sup> of October was the Queen's official birthday in Queensland, it is not the actual date of her real birthday and different states celebrate the Queen's Birthday holiday on different dates. In fact, Queensland has not always celebrated the Queen's Birthday on the first Monday in October. It used to observe the Queen's Birthday holiday on the second Monday in June, like all other states except for Western Australia. Queensland changed the holiday to the first Monday in October in 2016.

Although Australia is an independent country, it still has the Queen as head of state. Australia thus shares the same head of state with other independent countries like New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom! The Queen may be Australia's head of state, but her role is mostly ceremonial. She has very little actual power

On the Queen's Birthday holiday, shops are generally closed or only open for restricted trading hours. Public transport also operates on a reduced timetable. The Queen's Birthday Honours List, is released on this day. The Honours List honours Australians who have made significant contributions to society

- 1) Queensland's Queen's Birthday holiday was \_\_\_\_\_ on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.  
(choose the correct word: **had**, **held** or **celebrate**)
- 2) Do all Australian states observe the Queen's Birthday Holiday on the same day?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Has Queensland always observed Queen's Birthday on the same day? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Most states in Australia celebrate Queen's Birthday on the \_\_\_\_\_ Monday in \_\_\_\_\_.

- 5) Is Australia still ruled by Britain? \_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_ Does the Queen make any laws or decisions for Australia? \_\_\_\_
- 7) New Zealand, Australia and \_\_\_\_ are all independent countries even though they have the \_\_\_\_ queen as the \_\_\_\_.
- 8) Do buses run according to a normal Monday timetable on Queen's Birthday? \_\_\_\_  
The Queen's Birthday Honours list \_\_\_\_ Australians who have made \_\_\_\_ contributions to society.
- 9) "Significant" means the same as \_\_\_\_ (**special many** or **important**)